



Fire evacuees fear the worst, hope for the best

LOCAL & STATE, 7A

Record Searchlight

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Hotels, other businesses keeping busy

Firefighters, evacuees flood into area as Carr Fire rages on

David Benda
Redding Record Searchlight
USA TODAY NETWORK

The combination of firefighters and evacuees is keeping Redding hotels busy this week.

Hotels along Hilltop Drive were full or already booked up Thursday afternoon as the Carr Fire raged west of Redding.

"It looks like right now we are going to

be booked every day until Monday," said Jolie Hayes, general manager of the Red Lion Hotel.

Fire trucks and heavy equipment fighting the fire were parked at the Red Lion Hotel and Best Western Plus Hilltop Inn.

At the Best Western, among the trucks parked there was an Office of Emergency Services strike team representing units from Alameda County.

Ed Rullman, managing partner at the Best Western, said he has 40 rooms committed to California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection crews through Monday. The firefighters came to the hotel Wednesday.

"We do have a few evacuees who have decided to stay here and we have given them a lower rate," Rullman said.

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Firetrucks are parked outside the Best Western Plus Hilltop Inn in Redding. Area hotels are filling up with firefighters and evacuees from the Carr Fire. DAVID BENDA/RECORD SEARCHLIGHT



Lori Martin, superintendent of Shasta State Historical Park, sprays a roof to protect it from the flames of the Carr Fire. Cal Fire and fire departments in northern California joined together to fight the Carr Fire on Thursday morning. The fire continued to move east from Shasta all the way to Iron Mountain Road. HUNG T. VU

Carr Fire explodes to more than 20,000 acres

More than 2,200 west and north of Redding told to flee

Special to Redding Record Searchlight
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Carr Fire, which had burned 4,500 acres Wednesday, exploded overnight and continued its swift march toward heavily populated areas Thursday, consuming nearly 29,000 acres by late afternoon.

It raged northeast and burned through Shasta and Keswick toward Redding and Shasta Dam.

By Thursday morning officials had issued evacuation orders to more than 2,200 residents west and north of Redding.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection officials and Shasta County Sheriff's Office said

numerous homes had burned in the Keswick and Shasta areas.

With the fire actively burning in the area, firefighters had not been able to come up with an official tally — or even a good estimate — of the number of buildings lost.

As of Thursday afternoon the fire had consumed 28,763 acres. It was considered 10 percent contained.

California Gov. Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency in all of Shasta County due to the Carr Fire and other fires burning in the area. Sheriff Tom Bosenko also declared a local state of emergency.

Winds push fire

Mike Hebrard, Shasta County

fire chief, said winds pushed the Carr Fire northeast toward Shasta Dam.

"The fire right now, to the north, is essentially running toward Shasta Dam," Hebrard said in a mid-day press conference.

Shasta County Sheriff Tom Bosenko said the fire had shut down the Sacramento River Trail because trail users on the western edge near Keswick were in danger.

Highway 299 west of Buenaventura Boulevard was closed and most roads west of that intersection were also closed. Most residents west of that intersection were

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This smoke is making it dangerous to be outside

Conditions worse for elderly, young children

Jessica Skropanic
Redding Record Searchlight
USA TODAY NETWORK

Public health officials are warning residents to avoid being outdoors because of the smoke blowing in from the Carr Fire and other nearby fires.

"At this point, everybody should be aware of the conditions, and that they can change from area to area," said Tim Mapes, a spokesman for Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency.

Smoke is especially bad for "those with underlying health conditions, the elderly and young children," he said, urging even the healthy to limit their exercise and outdoor activity.

Shasta and Tehama counties issued air quality advisories Thursday morning after smoke from the Carr Fire boosted pollution to unhealthy levels. Those advisories will likely stay in effect at least through Friday, possibly into the weekend.

High heat and winds blowing smoke down the Sacramento Valley are making fire and air conditions worse. That's because the wind shifted on Thursday.

Wind came from the northwest on Wednesday, said Eric Kurth, meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Sacramento. Thursday it switched and started coming from the north, blowing smoke toward the South Sacramento Valley. Those winds should be about 5 mph to 10 mph.

"They don't look really strong," he said. "That's the good news."

Shasta County health officials warned the Carr Fire and fires in southern Oregon are belching smoke

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ROAD CLOSURES AND EVACUATION AREAS

Here are the roads that were closed and under evacuation orders as of Thursday:

Iola Road
Glendale Pines Drive
Dantra Lane
Yucatan Trail
Walker Terrace
Whispering Pines Drive
Bandana Mine Road
Mi Own Way
Dekkas Pom Court
Bandana Trail

Surprise Lane
Rancho Loh Lane
Gold Springs Place
Gold Rush Drive
Forest Trail
Mining Claim Road
Tancafla Lane
Millie Street
Laurel Street
Oak Street
Park Street
George Street
Wagner Street
Benson Drive

Wildland Drive
Rock Creek Road
Wingfield Lane
Patchet Trail
Miners Gulch Road
Bird Valley Drive
Pinecrest Drive
Sugar Pine Lane
Edwin Road
Stardust Lane
Scotia Lane
Nova Lane
Granite Drive to Mockingbird Hill Road intersection

Stone Terrace Way
Cross Creek Road
Manana Way
Maverick Drive
Here is a list of evictions in the Shasta area:
North side of Highway 299 from Southfork Road through Shasta

Mackley Alley
McDonald Alley
French Alley
Second Street between French Alley and Johnson Alley
Johnson Alley
Excelsior Alley
West of Swasey Drive

Good morning!

Margaret Anderson

USA TODAY

Sizzling July heat brings record temperatures across four continents. 3A

Weather

High 111° Low 72° Sunshine. Forecast, 10A

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